B. AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

- 1. (Currently Amended) A method of displaying layered data, said method comprising:
 - identifying a plurality of shading colors, each of the shading colors corresponding to a different data layer;
 - identifying a plurality of data items to be displayed in a display window;

for each data item:

- determining one of the data layers corresponding to the data item;
- selecting a shading color from the plurality of shading colors, wherein the shading color corresponds to the determined data layer;
- formatting the data item using the selected shading color; and
- displaying the formatted data item and an alphanumeric level identifier in the display window, wherein each formatted data item is positioned with a left margin substantially similar to a left margin corresponding to the other data items, and wherein the alphanumeric level identifier identifies the data layer corresponding to the formatted data item; and
- displaying a level indicator bar with each formatted data item, wherein one margin of the level indicator bar indicates a data level corresponding to the formatted data item.

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- 2. (Original) The method as described in claim 1 wherein the shading color includes grayscale shading.
- 3. (Original) The method as described in claim 1 further comprising:
 - analyzing an attribute corresponding to each data item; determining a visual highlight corresponding to the attribute;
 - including the visual highlight with the formatted data item.
- 4. (Original) The method as described in claim 3 wherein the visual highlight is selected from the group consisting of blinking, text coloring, bolding, italicizing, underlining, striking through, shadowing, cutlining, capitalizing, and font changing.
- 5. (Original) The method as described in claim 1 further comprising:
 - receiving a data item selection from a user;
 displaying one or more formatted data items below the
 selected data item in response to the user selecting
 an unexpanded data item; and
 - removing one or more formatted data items from the display area beneath the selected data item in response to the user selecting an expanded data item.
- 6. (Original) The method as described in claim 1 further comprising:
 - displaying a graphic icon with each formatted data item, the graphic icon indicating whether the formatted data item is expanded.

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- 7. (Previously Canceled)
- 8. (Canceled)
- 9. (Currently Amended) An information handling system comprising:

one or more processors;

- a memory accessible by the processors;
 - a display screen accessible by the processors; and
 - a layered data display tool to display layered data on the display screen, the layered data display tool including:
 - means for identifying a plurality of shading colors, each of the shading colors corresponding to a different data layer;
 - means for identifying a plurality of data items to be displayed on the display screen;

for each data item:

- means for determining one of the data layers corresponding to the data item;
- means for selecting a shading color from the plurality of shading colors, wherein the shading color corresponds to the determined data layer;
- means for formatting the data item using the selected shading color; and
- means for displaying the formatted data item and an alphanumeric level identifier in the display window, wherein each formatted data item is positioned with a left margin substantially similar to a left margin corresponding to the other data items, and wherein the alphanumeric

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level identifier identifies the data layer corresponding to the formatted data item; and means for displaying a level indicator bar with each formatted data item, wherein one margin of the level indicator bar indicates a data level corresponding to the formatted data item.

- 10. (Original) The information handling system as described in claim 9 wherein the shading color includes grayscale shading.
- 11. (Original) The information handling system as described in claim 9 further comprising; means for receiving a data item selection from a user; means for displaying one or more formatted data items below the selected data item in response to the user selecting an unexpanded data item; and means for removing one or more formatted data items from the display area beneath the selected data item in response to the user selecting an expanded data item.
- 12. (Original) The information handling system as described in claim 9 further comprising: means for displaying a graphic icon with each formatted data item, the graphic icon indicating whether the formatted data item is expanded.
- 13. (Previously Canceled)
- 14. (Canceled)

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- 15. (Currently Amended) A computer program product for displaying layered data, said computer program product comprising:
 - means for identifying a plurality of shading colors, each of the shading colors corresponding to a different data layer;
 - means for identifying a plurality of data items to be displayed in a display window;

for each data item:

- means for determining one of the data layers corresponding to the data item;
- means for selecting a shading color from the plurality of shading colors, wherein the shading color corresponds to the determined data layer;
- means for formatting the data item using the selected shading color; and
- means for displaying the formatted data item and an alphanumeric level identifier in the display window, wherein each formatted data item is positioned with a left margin substantially similar to a left margin corresponding to the other data items, and wherein the alphanumeric level identifier identifies the data layer corresponding to the formatted data item; and
- means for displaying a level indicator bar with each
 formatted data item, wherein one margin of the
 level indicator bar indicates a data level
 corresponding to the formatted data item.

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- 16. (Original) The computer program product as described in claim 15 wherein the shading color includes grayscale shading.
- 17. (Original) The computer program product as described in claim 15 further comprising:

 means for receiving a data item selection from a user;

 means for displaying one or more formatted data items below the selected data item in response to the user selecting an unexpanded data item; and means for removing one or more formatted data items from the display area beneath the selected data item in response to the user selecting an expanded data item.
- 18. (Original) The computer program product as described in claim 15 further comprising:

 means for displaying a graphic icon with each formatted data item, the graphic icon indicating whether the formatted data item is expanded.
- 19. (Previously Canceled)
- 20. (Canceled)